

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1 – 16, 31 – 36, 38, 41, 51, 52, 57, and 66 – 68.

Independent claim 17 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 38 (including the limitations of all intervening dependent claims). Claim 17 is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 39 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 51 (including the limitations of all intervening dependent claims). Claim 39 is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 54 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 66 (including the limitations of all intervening dependent claims). Claim 54 is now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 18, 19, 38, 48 – 51, and 63 – 66 due to being incorporated into an independent claim.

Per the Examiner's request, claim 42 is now correctly numbered. This claim was inadvertently listed as claim 52 in the previous claim listing.

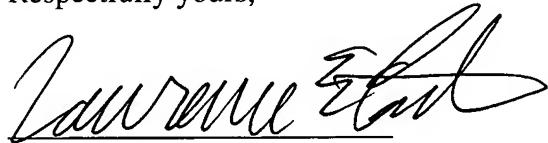
All independent claims (1, 17, 39, and 54), and all corresponding dependent claims, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a Petition for Extension of Time for the required time period.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully yours,



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